

Summer 2014

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SCHOOL OF

# Education

A very warm welcome to the first newsletter of the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin which aims to give our alumni and friends a twice yearly update on news and developments in the School.

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**Assoc. Professor Carmel O’Sullivan,**  
Head of School

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In this newsletter I’d like to share some of the achievements of our students and staff, and take this opportunity to sincerely thank them for their commitment to the life of this busy and dynamic School. The School of Education continues to thrive as one of the largest professional schools in Trinity College, and is committed to engaging in teaching and research at all levels of its provision: through initial teacher education, postgraduate education and research, and continuing professional development. There continues to be a huge interest in studying education at Trinity College Dublin, and the School has currently over 80 students studying at doctoral level (structured Ph.D. and D.Ed.), over 270 masters students, in addition to 40 B. Mus. Ed. and 130 PDE students.

Our alumni are of huge importance to us, and I would like to thank the many graduates who contribute to the academic and professional life of the School. Current students have benefitted greatly from the expertise, advice and insights provided by alumni who have come back to campus to give talks and participate in student events. We are developing a varied programme of events for the coming academic year, so do please keep in touch. Only a small fraction of what is taking place in the School is given space here, so please visit [www.tcd.ie/Education](http://www.tcd.ie/Education) to see the latest publications, reports, conferences, alumni events, photos and student life. I am proud of the teaching and research activities of our students and staff, which are making a considerable difference to the lives of so many people involved in education at all levels. I would love to hear about what you are up to now, and I hope you will feel encouraged to keep in touch and where possible to visit and participate in events.



# New Programme

The Professional Master in Education (PME) is a required qualification for persons wishing to work as post-primary school teachers in the Republic of Ireland and a recognised teaching qualification within the EU. From September 2014, this new two year full time course will replace the existing one year PDE (formally the H.Dip.). The aim of the course is to prepare new entrants for the teaching profession who are professional in all aspects of their work and who are knowledgeable and reflective about the aims and processes of education and are subject experts in their chosen discipline. For further information visit [www.tcd.ie/Education/courses/pme](http://www.tcd.ie/Education/courses/pme)



# Time for Some 'Girl Power' in Science!

In the week of the 50th Young Scientist Exhibition, Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabhán, Ph.D student, reflects on the importance of science and reveals how her love of science prompted a curiosity and understanding which has guided her through life.



I remember wanting to be a witch or a scientist around the age of six. To me they did exactly the same thing — mix potions until something magical happened — but I never thought of myself as someone who was 'good' at science or maths. In fact, right up to my mock Leaving Cert exams I didn't think I was able for honours mathematics and only stayed due to my horrendously strict (as I thought at the time!) parents who made me stick with it. I am very grateful to them as I went on to study theoretical physics in UCD and thoroughly enjoyed my degree, as one of only three girls on that course. Nowadays there is a lot of focus on gender imbalance in science and mathematics. In Dec 2013, it was

announced that Ireland scored significantly above in the PISA OECD averages in mathematics and science — something we really should be loudly celebrating — but we unfortunately follow the same international trend of boys outperforming girls in science (albeit marginally) and mathematics (quite significantly). As a recent Institute of Physics report suggests, we may be unwittingly reinforcing gender stereotypes in young people and thus not helping to improve the gender imbalances in undergraduate engineering, maths and physics courses. We need to let young girls know that they are able for, may very much enjoy and could have successful, satisfying careers in science.

Feature published in the Irish Examiner on 9 January, 2014  
Full report on: <http://tiny.cc/e3kmgx>

## What Our Research Students are Getting Up To

Ph.D. student **Ludovic Highman** presented a paper titled 'A case study on differentiation in the mission and roles of higher education institutions in Ireland' at the Hawaii International Conference on Education (HICE) in Honolulu on the island of Oahu from January 5-8, 2014. This conference was organised and co-sponsored by the University of Louisville, Pepperdine University and California State University, East Bay. Ludovic also found time to soak up some sunshine on his visit! Ludovic is supervised by **Dr John Walsh**.



Ph.D. student **Gene Dalton** was awarded a prize for best paper for a talk entitled 'Learning Irish in a Virtual World: Can New Technologies be Effective in Bridging the Motivation Gap in the Child's Language Learning Experience at School?', sponsored by the Irish Association of Applied Linguistics. Gene is supervised by **Dr Ann Devitt**.



Ph.D. student **Peadar Donohoe** featured on The Morning Edition on RTE with his research on bullying prevention. Peadar, who is undertaking Ph.D. research on drama and anti-bullying education, has been awarded a significant award. His theatre company, Cyclone Rep has been designated as part of the Amber Flag campaign, awarded by Suicide Aware and the Institute of Guidance Counsellors, for their work on the BPS (bullying prevention session). Peadar is supervised by **Dr Carmel O'Sullivan**.

Ph.D. student **Jolanta Burke** has been selected to write a monthly column for InTouch magazine about applying positive psychology to education. The first article was published in the October 2013 issue, titled 'Positive Education'. Jolanta is also the residential positive psychologist on Today FM. Jolanta presented a paper titled 'Applying Cyber Psychology Findings to Positive Psychology Interventions' at the Third World Congress on Positive Psychology which took place in Los Angeles in June 2013. Jolanta is supervised by **Dr Stephen Minton**.



Ph.D. student **Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin** gave a talk for Maths Fest on 12 October in University College Dublin. Ireland's largest Maths Education Show was attended by hundreds of mathematics teachers. Aoibhinn spoke on 'Lesson Study as a Form of Professional Development for Mathematics Teachers'. Aoibhinn presented a paper at the World Association of Lesson Study 9th Annual International Conference at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden from 6-9 September, 2013. The paper was titled 'Lesson Study Within a Community of Practice: A Professional Development Intervention for Mathematics Teachers Engaging in a New Curriculum'. Aoibhinn is supervised by **Dr Aidan Seery**.



Ph.D. student **Kate Carr Fanning** presented at the CHADD conference in Washington, USA in November. Kate is supervised by **Dr Stephen Minton**.



Supporting a child through grief can seem like a daunting process but it requires three simple human attributes, Ph.D. student **Aoife Mary O'Brien** explains: honesty, patience, and empathy. The article, titled 'Young People are the Forgotten Mourners' was published in the *Journal.ie* and it received over 12,000 views. Aoife is supervised by **Dr Conor McGuckin**.



Ph.D. student **Katie Guinnane** presented a poster at the annual PESGB (Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain) conference at New College Oxford on 27 March, 2014 titled 'Subjectivity, Post-Humanism and Bildung'. Katie attended Utrecht Summer School in The Netherlands in August 2013. Katie is supervised by **Dr Aidan Seery**.



Ph.D. student **Sr Alice Drajea** presented a paper at the British Educational Research Association (BERA) conference in Sussex, UK in September, titled 'Educators' Perceptions about the Influence of Parents' Education on their Children's Achievement in School: A Case Study of Moyo District in Rural Uganda'. Alice is supervised by **Dr Carmel O'Sullivan**.



## Awards

- The Irish Research Council has awarded Aoife O'Brien a Government of Ireland postgraduate scholarship for her doctoral project – *'Bereavement and grief in Irish schools: A thanatological approach toward understanding and intervention development'*.



- Gene Dalton, pictured second from right, won a Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme in Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences. Gene received a €1,000 travel bursary from the Irish Research Council. Gene is supervised by Dr Ann Devitt and is a member of the RISE research group.

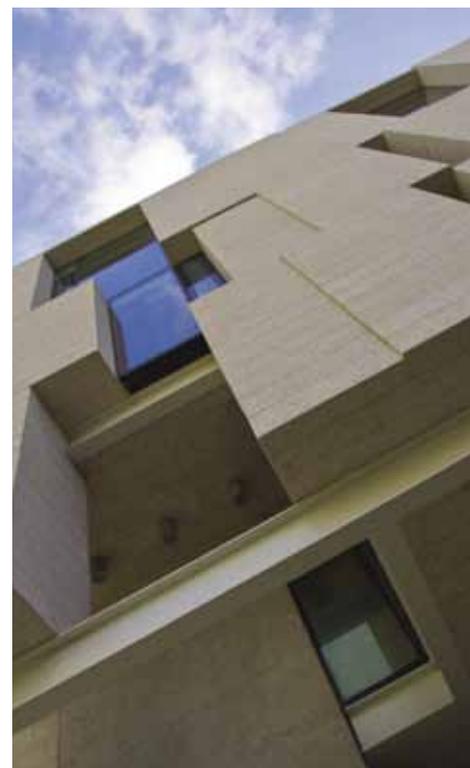
- Four School of Education Ph.D. students presented at the All-Ireland Doctoral Conference. Sr Alice Drajea presented a paper on 'Parents' Education Levels/Literacy Skills: An Impact on Primary Children's Achievement at School in Rural Uganda', Connor O'Donoghue presented a paper on 'Using Facebook on Biographical Research on Young People', Youcef Sai spoke on 'Strategies for Success? Pedagogical Approaches to Teaching and Learning. Islamic Religious Education in Irish Schools' while Alison Egan presented a poster on 'Teacher Identified Uses of Technology in the Classroom – an Irish Cohort'.

- Ludovic Highman, Stella Long, David Moroney, Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin and Connor O'Donoghue presented papers at the European Conference on Educational Research (ECER) in Istanbul in September.

- School of Education postgraduate students hosted a very successful conference in June titled 'The Future of Education'. The fourth such annual event, the aim of the conference was to showcase the current research being undertaken by the School's postgraduate students.



## Conferences and Seminars



The School of Education and the School of Law recently joined the Trinity Long Room Hub Arts & Humanities Research Institute as member Schools. To mark the occasion there was an evening of interdisciplinary dialogue in November, during which both Schools discussed aspects of their research that are related to the mission of the institute. On behalf of the School of Education, Prof Carmel O'Sullivan addressed 'Drama in the Social Education of Young People with Asperger Syndrome - Towards the Development of 12 New Sub-Types'.



## CHALLENGING DSM 5: AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

Major changes in the diagnosis of autism were debated at an International Conference in Trinity College Dublin. The School of Education co-hosted this important groundbreaking two-day conference in partnership with the The Asperger Syndrome Association of Ireland (ASPIRE). The Challenging DSM-5 conference included the launch of “groundbreaking results” from a 10-year TCD study examining the use of drama to develop the social skills of young people with Asperger’s Syndrome.

The conference featured key speakers from the areas of autism research, psychiatry, psychology, education, and the arts. It received huge media coverage from TV, radio and press. The new DSM-5 (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual), produced by the American Psychiatric Association, has dropped Asperger’s Disorder and absorbed it into the general diagnosis of autism spectrum disorders. This move is being viewed as problematic for many in the Irish health and education system, including Aspire who believe that it is a mistake to put everyone under the one umbrella of autism spectrum disorder.



With over 300 delegates in attendance, the conference highlighted research carried out by Dr Carmel O’Sullivan, Head of the School of Education at Trinity College Dublin, which has led to a much improved understanding of high functioning autism. Dr O’Sullivan presented and discussed the results of a major intervention into the development of social and communication skills for children and adolescents affected by high functioning autism through the use of a special type of drama called Social Drama.

Among the international speakers at the Conference were:

- **Prof Fred Volkmar** from Yale University
- **Prof Patricia Howlin** from the Institute of Psychiatry, London
- **Dr Stephen Shore**, Assistant Professor at Adelphi University, USA who has been diagnosed with Asperger’s Disorder.



Volunteers providing a helping hand at the conference

## One Voice for Languages



Dr Ann Devitt, School of Education,  
Tanya Flanagan & Déirdre Kirwin

The launch of One Voice for Languages took place Thursday, 14 November, 2013 in the Long Room Hub. The event was hosted by Trinity’s School of Education Research in School Education (RISE) group and the School of Languages, Literature and Cultural Studies. Speakers included Prof Finbarr Bradley, Dr Lorna Carson, Barbara Nolan and Tony Donohue. The importance of language learning for employment, education and intercultural understanding was highlighted at the launch of a new group promoting language learning.

One Voice for Languages is a group of over 200 linguists, academics, teachers, parents, arts representatives and business leaders who have come together to highlight Ireland’s deficit in 21st century language

skills and the diminishing status of language learning in the Irish education system. Members of the committee are Marie Thérèse Batardière, University of Limerick; Kristin Brogan, Institute of Technology Tralee; Ann Devitt, Trinity College Dublin; Tanya Flanagan, St. Farnan’s Post-Primary School, Co. Kildare; Déirdre Kirwin, Scoil Bhríde Dublin 15; Niamh Nestor, Ph.D. candidate UCD; Susanna Nocchi, Dublin Institute of Technology and Christiane Schönfeld, Mary Immaculate College (University of Limerick). For more information visit [www.onevoiceforlanguages.com](http://www.onevoiceforlanguages.com)

## DART OF PHYSICS

DART of Physics is an exciting science outreach initiative led by the School of Education and School of Physics at Trinity College.



DART of Physics ran a series of 12 advertisement cards on the DART and in DART stations over 8 weeks. These DART cards included physics statements and puzzles which engaged commuters and started a city-wide conversation around physics.



Dr Shane Bergin, Dr Jessamyn Fairfield, Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin and Dr Colette Murphy.

Trinity physicist Dr Shane Bergin believes “that people see physics as ugly, but necessary, and not for them”. Working with colleagues from the School of Education Dr Colette Murphy and Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin and fellow CRANN nanoscientist Dr Jessamyn Fairfield, they created DART of Physics to change the public perception of physics. Simple ‘wow statements’ that capture the beauty of physics became part of the backdrop for Dublin commuters over an eight week period, sparking conversation and raising curiosity.

As the project was rolled out, a series of blogs were released linked to various physics topics as well as profiles of physicists. These blogs were written for DART of Physics by leading scientists and science enthusiasts around the globe. The site also expanded on the physics topics mentioned in the DART ads, and are an excellent source for teachers to cover exciting topics in class.

Associate Professor Colette Murphy, added: *“Dart of Physics is physics for Ireland... I’m really excited about all the amazing science lessons that will come from it!”*

As well as benefiting from funding from the Schools of Physics and Education at Trinity, which are jointly leading the initiative, Science Foundation Ireland, Intel Ireland, the Metro Herald, IQ-Content, Language and Irish Rail have all provided financial and/or in-kind contributions to ensure the project is a success. This was a not-for-profit educational project directed by Dr Shane Bergin, Dr Colette Murphy, Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin and Dr Jessamyn Fairfield in Trinity College Dublin. For more information visit [www.dartofphysics.ie](http://www.dartofphysics.ie)

## People and Events

Throughout the year, our academic colleagues engaged in various conference, seminars and TV broadcasts. Further information can be found on [www.tcd.ie/education](http://www.tcd.ie/education)

Liz Fleeton commenced with a Masters in Arts degree from the University. Tempus fugit, non autem memoria, and certainly that memory is still prestigious even after over 40 years of faithful service to those who entered Trinity to embark on a teaching career. A concerned and generous colleague, Liz has cared for and nurtured generations of teacher students with kindness, wisdom and wit. We congratulate her on this recognition from College for all that she has done in the School of Education over the years.



## Computer Science Initiative for the 21st Century Classroom

Trinity College Dublin announced a three year partnership with Google to develop a new project aimed at transforming computer science in Irish schools. The School of Education welcomes this major investment and the opportunity to influence significant change in Irish education. Google is a long-term supporter of educational innovation in Ireland through its support of the Science Gallery, TAP and Bridge21. It has also provided funding to the Centre for Academic Achievement which provides free after-school classes in science, math and engineering subjects for primary school students from disadvantaged areas.

Dr Carmel O’Sullivan is pleased to announce that our colleague Professor Anne O’Gara, President of Marino Institute of Education, has been appointed as an Adjunct Professor to the School of Education. This is a significant appointment and recognises Anne’s experience and leadership role in the field of teacher education in Ireland.

## Arts Education

The Arts Education Research Group (AERG) in the School of Education, in association with TYA (Theatre for Young Audiences) Ireland and Barnstorm Theatre Company presented a unique two-day exploration of The Role of Fairytale in Contemporary Theatre as part of Ireland's Presidency of the European Union. The relevance of fairytale to contemporary audiences was the focus of a symposium attended by international academics, storytellers and theatre specialists in Trinity College Dublin recently. A highlight of the conference was a presentation from Erika Eichenseer, the cultural curator at Oberpfalz in Bavaria, who discovered 500 long lost fairytales gathered by Franz Xaver von Schönwerth, a contemporary of the Grimm Brothers. The collection of fairytales by the historian had been locked away in an archive in Germany for over 150 years, until discovered by Mrs Eichenseer. Director of AERG in the School



Ms Erica Eichenseer

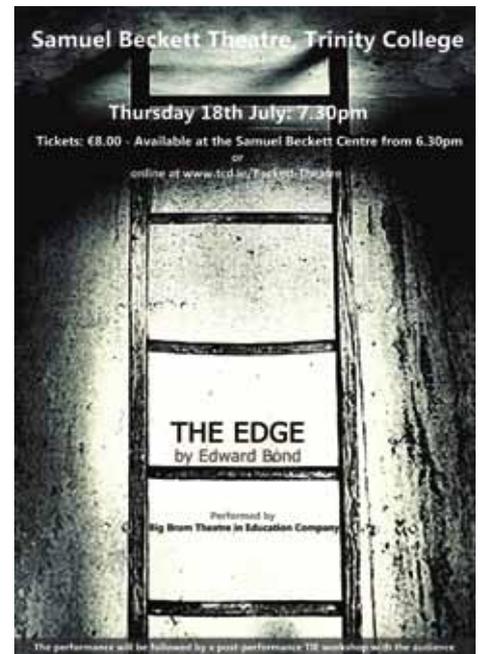
of Education in Trinity College, Dr Carmel O'Sullivan, commented: "Since earliest times fairytales have fulfilled a cautionary role, allowing children to ponder deep anxieties and the darker aspects of human personality within a safe, abstract context."



Dr Carmel O'Sullivan & Marita Kerin represented AERG from the School of Education at the launch of Encountering the Arts Ireland in the National Museum of Ireland.



AERG hosted a lecture in the Neil Hoey Theatre with guest speaker Prof Lucy Green, University of London. The lecture was on 'Informal Music Practices and Formal Music Education: Some Illustrations from the Classroom and the Instrumental Studio'.



Big Brum Theatre, in association with AERG and the M.Ed. International Drama in Education Summer School programme, presented 'The Edge' by Edward Bond in The Samuel Beckett Theatre.

in the School of Education and is supported by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) and NAPD. The large scale study is a response to the findings and recommendations from Paula's doctoral research, 'Authentic Listening to Student Voice' from which the 'I'm Me Programme' emerged. The objective of this research is to listen to and empower the participating students as well as facilitate opportunities to identify, improve upon or generate supports that impact on learning, engagement and enjoyment of school.

## Inclusion Education & Society (IES)

### Inclusive Methods in Mainstream Education

Dr Paula Flynn presented on the initiation of a national learner voice research study, 'I'm Me' (Inclusive Methods in Mainstream Education) at the NAPD (National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals) conference in Galway. The study is located within the research group, Inclusion in Education and Society (IES)

The IES Research Group hosted an Inter-University Symposium in the Long Room Hub between the Schools of Education of Trinity College Dublin and the University of Northampton. The title of the event was: 'Approaches to Inclusive Research in Education: Opportunities and Challenges'.

## Cultures, Academic Values Education Centre (CAVE)

### School of Education Research Group becomes a College Research Centre

The Cultures, Academic Values and Education (CAVE) research group was formed in 2008 and has established itself as the largest research group on Higher Education in Ireland. It comprises seven academic researchers including colleagues from the ESRI and the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty. In October 2013, the group was recognised for the value of its work and afforded College Research Centre status. The Centre is currently engaged in a national study of postdoctoral researchers' lives and has just published a major volume on Irish Higher Education: 'Higher Education in Ireland: Policy, Practices and Possibilities' with Palgrave Macmillan in March 2014. The Centre also now has 18 Ph.D. students in the field of higher education. More details are available on [www.tcd.ie/Education/research/centres/cave/](http://www.tcd.ie/Education/research/centres/cave/)

### Witness Seminar

CAVE also recently hosted a Witness Seminar on the university merger between Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin proposed in 1967-68 in October 2013 in The Trinity Long Room Hub.

### Investment in Education: Fifty Years On

CAVE, in conjunction with the ESRI, hosted a one-day conference entitled 'Investment in Education: Fifty Years On', which was held in the Long Room Hub on 28 November, 2012. The conference combined a historical 'witness seminar' on the seminal Investment in Education study and an exploration of contemporary educational policies involving representatives of state agencies, higher education institutions, business organisations and the trade union movement. Sean Sherlock TD, Minister for Research and Innovation, gave the concluding address. Dr John Walsh, Dr Selina McCoy (ERSI) and Dr Aidan Seery are co-editors of a special issue of Irish Educational Studies in 2014, based around the theme of 'Investment in Education' and incorporating the contributions of panelists from the conference.



Mr Barry Desmond, former Minister of Health and Social Welfare

### Exploring Difference and Diversity in Irish Higher Education

This one-day conference was held in June, 2013 and co-hosted by REAMS (Research on Adult Mature Students in Education) and CAVE. The conference was designed to stimulate discourse and debate on issues surrounding widening participation and equality of access, participation and outcomes for those groups who have remained on the margins of access and participation in third level for the Republic of Ireland during a period of rapid expansion in the system. As such we were delighted to have welcomed over 70 participants on the day to share in the work of researchers representing many different HEI's throughout Ireland and further afield.

## Research in School Education (RISE)

'Education in the 21st Century' seminar looks at the Junior Cycle reform

Organised by the Research in School Education (RISE) Group in the School of Education, the seminar focused on the rationale, aims and possible outcomes of proposed Junior Cycle reform in the context of improving young people's opportunities and wellbeing.

The seminar provided a forum for stakeholders to offer commentary on the philosophy and principles behind Junior Cycle education and to analyse proposed reforms in the context of aspirations, needs and feasibility at the individual, local, national and international levels.

In her keynote address, entitled 'Schooling in the 21st Century', Dr Colette Murphy presented her research into student perceptions of assessment among primary school children.

Dr Murphy's research compared the views of children in Wales, where standard attainment tests (SATs) were abolished in 2004, with those of a group of children in England who were part of the last cohort to take SATs in science at the end of their primary education.

The seminar also looked at the use of Peer Response Systems, 'clickers', in research and teaching. Delegates used the PRS to rank six features of JCR in terms of (i) desirability and (ii) feasibility. The findings of the data were followed up at a symposium on 'Student Voice' in May. This paper is currently being prepared for a report to the DES to assist with JCR implementation and for wider dissemination.

## Nominet Trust 100

In a collaboration between the School of Education and the School of Computer Science & Statistics, Bridge21 has been chosen for the inaugural Nominet Trust 100 – a list that celebrates the people and organisations who are using digital technology to change the world for the better. The Bridge21 programme is an essential research activity of CRITE Lab a joint activity between the School of Education and Computer Science & Statistics.



## The President of Ireland's Ethics Initiative

Cyberbullying: Ethical Issues for Children, Adults, and Educators'

The Trinity Long Room Hub organised two major public events as part of the President of Ireland's Ethics Initiative. The Initiative is a series of over 50 nationwide events to stimulate debate on and awareness of ethical themes, questions and concerns. This public forum included lectures by three experts in the area of CyberPsychology, Cyberbullying and Cyber law. Dr Conor McGuckin from The School of Education addressed the area of CyberBullying and the central issues that we, as a society, need to consider in terms of helping young people make ethical decisions when engaging in new postmodern relationships. He discussed the process of how we can help children,

adults, and educators cope with the issues that new technology brings – both positive as well as negative in an effort to develop our thoughts and considerations

of how we, as a society, can intervene to help protect our citizens in their quest to lead lives that are ethical and moral – lives that are free from harm and harassment.



## Fundraising for Uganda

A fundraiser coffee morning was held in the School of Education attended by staff and students to raise funds for providing schooling for children in Metu, Gwere Liziral Village in Uganda. The fundraising event was the initiative of Ph.D. student, Sr Alice Drajea. The funds raised by the School supported the children's school fees, uniform and stationary for one year.



## The Caroline Foundation

In memory of the late Caroline Dwyer Hickey, a past student from the Masters Drama programme, a Guinness World Record longest ribbon chain charity cliff walk for Cancer Research in Ireland, took place on 11 May. For further information visit [www.thecarolinefoundation.com](http://www.thecarolinefoundation.com)

## The Voluntary Tuition Programme (MTP)



Two of our Ph.D. students, Connor Tiarnach O'Donoghue and Ludovic Highman have been awarded a place on the University's Dean of Students' Roll of Honour for 2013/14. The award recognises students who undertake voluntary work. In selecting students for this prestigious award,



the Review Committee also places great emphasis on personal reflection and development. The Voluntary Tuition Programme is a partnership between Trinity students, parents and volunteers from the local communities of Pearse Street and Ringsend.

## On lá na gaeilge

Staff and Ph.D. students from the School of Education held a coffee morning to celebrate Irish Day in College. It was a fun and memorable morning, and organised to encourage people to use whatever Irish they have....na cúpla focail!

Most of us tried out the few or many Irish focail we have to chat as gaeilge, and a big bualadh bos to Maije for winning the best newcomer's award. The School is continuing to organise a weekly

informal lón gaeilge on Wednesdays at 1pm to build on this successful initiative. Recently, John Sheahan of the Dubliners fame popped in and delighted all with an impromptu performance.



John Sheahan



Aonghus Dwane Oifigeach na Gaeilge congratulating PhD student Ludovic Highman on his accomplishment of speaking Irish.

## Three degrees!

Karin Bacon became the first student from the School to be commenced with all three Education Degrees: B. Ed., M. Ed. and D.Ed. Karin completed her B.Ed. in 1988 as a student of Froebel College, her M.Ed. in 1994 under the supervision of Dr Philip Matthews and now her D. Ed. (2013), also under Philip's supervision and as his last doctoral student before his retirement.



## SLAM 2014 GRADUATE CEREMONY

**SLAM (Student Leadership and Maths) engaged over 70 post-primary senior cycle students in developing their mathematical and leadership skills. The programme has been developed and co-ordinated by senior sophister Neuroscience student, Lydia Flynn, and her undergraduate and postgraduate colleagues from across all faculties within Trinity College Dublin. The programme was also supported by the Maths Society and the Dean of Science.**

Under the partnership of the School of Education in TCD, the SLAM programme ran over 11 weeks. The School of Education held a workshop for the volunteers sharing relevant literature, games and ideas for resources and activities. Post-primary students from across Dublin schools, were invited to Trinity College Dublin to participate in SLAM encompassing two parallel courses in maths and leadership.

Transition year and 5th year students participating in SLAM were encouraged to set up Maths Clubs in their own schools in order to encourage their younger peers to enjoy mathematics and to provide an additional forum for students to take part in engaging mathematics activities. A number of students also set up Coding Clubs providing a unique environment for students to learn computer programming.

Students from Trinity College Dublin gave freely of their time to co-ordinate and participate in SLAM as part of the Voluntary Tuition Programme in the University.

Dr Carmel O'Sullivan presented graduation certificates to each of the 70 post-primary school students who successfully completed the SLAM programme, which were awarded at a ceremony in the Science Gallery on 22 March, 2014. At that event, Dr O' Sullivan acknowledged the support of Ms Aoibhinn Ní Shuilleabháin and Dr Colette Murphy from the School of Education in assisting Lydia Flynn and the Trinity College student volunteers who devised and ran this innovative programme.



## Follow us on Twitter

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facebook.com/education.tcd

## Get Involved

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Trinity has a long tradition of outreach and community engagement. To find out about the numerous ways you can get involved with Trinity both at home and abroad, see [www.tcd.ie/alumni/volunteer](http://www.tcd.ie/alumni/volunteer)

## Stay In Touch

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Get connected with Front Gate Online. Update your details, search and contact fellow alumni, register for events, join the career network and other groups, all in one place! Register today!  
[www.tcd.ie/alumni/frontgateonline](http://www.tcd.ie/alumni/frontgateonline)

## Upcoming Events

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TCD Alumni Weekend  
22-24 August 2014

Christmas Commons  
3 December 2014

Christmas Homecoming  
22 December 2014

[www.tcd.ie/alumni/events](http://www.tcd.ie/alumni/events)

[www.tcd.ie/education](http://www.tcd.ie/education)

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